GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:480
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Welfare and Safety of Workers/ Labourers
Kaswan Shri Rahul

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)the number of workers/labourers working in various industries/institutions in the country State/UT-wise and company-wise;
(b)whether the Government is implementing any scheme for the safety and welfare of these workers and if so, the details thereof along with the number of workers benefiting therefrom, State/UT-wise;
(c)whether the Government has received complaints of exploitation of
workers in various companies/institutions in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard, State/UT-wise including Delhi;
(d)whether there is any proposal to review the labour laws keeping in view the various problems being faced by the labourers across the country; and
(e)if so, the details and the current status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)
(a): The Ministry of Labour & Employment do not conduct/compile consolidated data on the number of workers/labourers in absolute terms covering all the companies across various industries/institutions in all the States/UTs of the country. However, as per 5th round of Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey conducted by the Labour Bureau for the year 2015-2016 , the details of workers and labourers working in different Industry Section based on NIC 2008 Code according to Usual Principal Status (UPS) Approach in the country is as given at Annex -I.
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(b): The Government of India has enacted a comprehensive legislation i.e. the Factories Act, 1948, for taking care of the occupational safety, health & welfare issues of the workers employed in manufacturing sector including chemical factories. There are elaborate provisions pertaining to the health, safety, welfare i.e. provisions related to hazardous process, working hours, penal provisions etc. and the Rules prescribed there under to ensure safety of the workers as far as the manufacturing sector is concerned. The Factories Act, 1948 and the State Factories Rules framed there under are enforced by the respective State/UTs and the State/UTs are empowered to carryout inspections for enforcement of the provisions of the Act and the Rules. The Safety, Health and Welfare of persons employed in Mines including Oil & Gas Mines are dealt under the Mines Act, 1952, rules and regulations made thereunder. This Ministry is implementing various schemes including Medical Schemes, Educational Schemes, Social Security Schemes and Housing Scheme etc. under different welfare funds like beedi/Non Coal Mines/Cine for the welfare of the workers who benefited therefrom. The number of building and other construction workers registered with the State Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Boards State/UT-wise is at Annex-II. The State/UT-wise details of Beedi Workers as on 30.06.2015 is at Annex-III.
(c): No such complaints pertaining to Safety and Welfare of workers have been received in the Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central). However, under Building and Other Constructions Workers Act, 1996 and Contract Labour (Regulations and Abolitions) Act, 1970, if irregularities are observed under safety and welfare head, prosecution is filed against defaulting employers in the courts. Details are at Annex-IV.
(d) & (e): Reforms in labour laws are an ongoing process to update legislative system to address the need of the hour and to make them more effective and contemporary to the emerging economic and industrial scenario. The Ministry has inter-alia taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security & Welfare; and Safety and Working Conditions, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws.
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